

parents teach their children the meaning behind the color of their skin, to stay on the right side of the system, and to face a world that fears our physique. Despite centuries of challenges, Black parents have raised children who grew into the workers, professionals, parents, and communities who made this wonderful Nation what it is.

Black Resistance has helped us overcome barriers on the path to equality; yet recently, it seems that more obstacles arise with each hurdle we surmount. Instead of moving forward, it sometimes feels like we are stuck in an ongoing cycle of one-step-forward-two-steps-back. Black students in Chicago and across the nation are disproportionately likely to attend underfunded schools that lack resources and qualified teachers. This inequity often results in decreased academic achievement and diminished opportunities for success. Black parents must advise their children how to navigate the centuries-old barriers facing African Americans and hope the world doesn't take their babies from them. Too many Black mothers in the United States suffer from the agony of knowing that their child's last words were a call for them while being killed by the police. Further, some Republican leaders are aggressively pushing to eliminate the teaching of African-American history in classrooms, promising to exacerbate the ongoing education crisis and forcing the country to move backward instead of forward. Without education on the various accomplishments and failings of the past, future generations will be unprepared for the challenges ahead due to the lost lessons of history.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., recognized that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Regardless of the obstacles encountered, the Black community has a long, cultural tradition of activism and advocacy, and this Black Resistance advances the fight for justice and equality that Dr. King spoke of. In honor of Black History Month, I organized a town hall gathering to recognize the historical heroes and heroines, those from the past who have shaped our world and those from the present who are paving the path for future heroes and heroines. The event occurred on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at the Home of Life Missionary Baptist Church. During this event, I heard from residents about what policies on which they believe Congress should focus to continue bending the arc of the moral universe toward justice.

As we celebrate the 23rd Black History Month, I am reminded of Sam Cooke's hope: "It's been a long . . . time coming, but I know a change gonna come. Oh yes, it will." I have seen Black Resistance bring about such wonderful change in my lifetime. I am proud to celebrate this success, and I promise to continue fighting for equality and opportunity at every turn. Change is gonna come.

RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN VERA DEACON

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district. Vera Deacon, who after graduating

from the Abington Senior High School studied medical sciences at Penn State University and then obtained her license as a registered nurse at the Abington Hospital School of Nursing in 1977.

Vera served the community as an Emergency Department nurse at Abington Hospital and then Lehigh Valley Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital where she transitioned into the role of a PICC nurse and vascular access educator. As a driven patient advocate throughout her career, Vera participated in the reviews of PICC line device failures, efficacy, and the effects of short and long-term placements. As a CRNI and expert in the field, she has published several medical journal articles related to the elimination of infections in complex patient populations, and the Safe Medical Devices Act and its impact on clinical practice.

Missing the intensely challenging patient care opportunities of the hospital Emergency Department, Vera joined the Springtown Volunteer Fire Company to provide rescue services to her home community and was certified in Firefighter 1 and as a Basic Vehicle Rescue technician. After completing an EMT course, she joined Upper Bucks Regional EMS where she has consistently volunteered on-duty at its Springfield Township station every week and is an invaluable crew member with her extensive background in emergency medicine.

In addition to responding to 911 calls for medical emergencies, she now also serves Upper Bucks Regional EMS as the volunteer coordinator and the vice president and secretary of the Board of Directors. As if this service to the community wasn't enough, she also volunteered to review funding applications for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in Montgomery County and brought that knowledge and experience back to benefit her local Fire and EMS community. In 2022, Vera Deacon volunteered more than 252.5 hours at Upper Bucks Regional EMS and is therefore awarded the President's Silver Volunteer Service Award on behalf of our Nation.

We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Vera has had through her long career of public service, and we wish Vera countless blessings into the future.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF RICHARD H. DEDRICK

HON. MARCUS J. MOLINARO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker. I rise today in remembrance of Richard H. Dedrick, a longtime friend and Tivoli neighbor who passed away on February 15 of this year.

Rich served his country honorably in the United States Air Force and was the Commander of Post 524 of the American Legion in Tivoli. His humor and wit lessened a debate and lightened the mood. Our service together in the village of Tivoli helped to make better the community and lives of those who called our corner of the world home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the memory of Richard H. Dedrick. While we mourn his passing, we celebrate his life and the legacy he leaves behind. May his life and memory always be a blessing.

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of Westmoreland County, the history of its people and their service to Western Pennsylvania.

Westmoreland County was founded on February 26, 1773 through an Act of Assembly signed by Governor John Penn. While the British already maintained a presence in the region, Westmoreland was the first county to be founded west of the Allegheny Mountains and represented a new frontier for Pennsylvania. Westmoreland's people endured hardships when the county was sought by Virginia during Dunmore's War. The county seal at Hannastown was attacked and burned by American Indians in 1782. Three years later, the county seat was moved to Greensburg where it stands today.

This new frontier also played a role in testing the strength of our country's leadership during the Whiskey Rebellions, when farmers from Western Pennsylvania fought back against the first federal tax on spirits. What could have been a far bloodier conflict was handled fairly but firmly by President George Washington and Pennsylvania's leaders, proving to the world that America could handle its own disputes without resorting to tyranny.

Although neighboring Allegheny County was first formed from parts of Westmoreland, their economic lives have remained inseparable. Westmoreland's plentiful coal resources fueled Pittsburgh's revolutionary steel industry, leading to the formation of Carnegie Steel by Westmoreland County native Henry Clay Frick. Wages from those same steel plants helped to draw workers and feed families across the Allegheny River. Farmlands of Westmoreland helped provide eggs, oats, and alfalfa to the rest of the Nation for years, cementing the county as an essential arm of American industry.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Westmoreland County is uniquely American and important to Pennsylvania. You cannot tell the story of our country without speaking of the people who worked hard to turn a frontier county into an engine of American industry. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate the citizens of Westmoreland County on this remarkable milestone and look forward to building on this storied history over the next 250 years.

RECOGNIZING ARTHUR O. EVE, JR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate Arthur O. "Champ" Eve, Jr. on being recognized with the Erie County Democratic Committee's 2023 Joseph F. Crangle Legacy Award. This award rightfully acknowledges Champ's name as one of the great leaders of our party and commemorates his service to our community and the Democratic Party.

Champ rightfully earned this distinction through a lifetime of public service and commitment to others. Born to trailblazing leaders, Constance Boyles Eve and Arthur O. Eve, Sr., Champ was quickly taught the importance of family, hard work, and staying true to one's values. Champ is a proud graduate of Canisius High School and the University at Buffalo, though Buffalo State University holds a special place in his heart as he serves as Assistant Men's Basketball Coach and a mentor for the young student-athletes. Champ has been on the frontline of local, state, and national campaigns since becoming involved in politics at a young age, and he has never faltered in his commitment to the party. He is the founder and President of Unity Coalition, an organization that through his leadership has and advised and recruited candidates for local office, collected thousands of signatures, and planted hundreds of lawn signs. Throughout his years of involvement, Champ and Unity Coalition have been tireless campaigners for candidates including, President Barack Obama, Senator Hillary Clinton, Honorable Jeannette Ogden, Governor Kathy Hochul, and County Executive Mark Poloncarz.

Currently, Champ serves as the Deputy Board of Elections Commissioner for Erie County and Vice Chair of the Erie County Democratic Committee. He shares his passion for politics and community service with his wife, Kim, and his seven children, Arthur III, Shiana, Laneesha, Eric, Louis, Melzetta, and David, as well as his treasured grandchildren.

Mr. Eve's dedication to his country, community, family, and party is indicative of all that is great about Western New York. I am thankful for the opportunity to call Champ a friend and to honor him and the countless positive contributions he has made to our community. Today, those in attendance for the Chairman's Council Reception in Buffalo express their gratitude toward Champ, but our appreciation pales in comparison to the unwavering dedication that Champ has demonstrated for several decades. Champ undoubtedly deserves the Joseph F. Crangle Legacy Award, and I thank him for his commitment to bettering the lives of those in our community.

HONORING JENNIFER CARPENTER

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Jennifer Carpenter, the Chief Operating Officer for D'Amore Healthcare.

As the COO for D'Amore Healthcare, Jennifer is a Certified Treatment Executive and holds credentials in the behavioral health field, including certifications as a Qualified Mental Health Specialist and Certified Admissions and Marketing Specialist with CCAPP. Before finding her passion in Admissions with D'Amore Healthcare, Jennifer worked for a nonprofit organization as the Financial Administrator.

Her own personal journey led to her dedication in helping others struggling with mental health and substance abuse and allows her to be the point of contact with individuals and their families looking to start their recovery.

Throughout her incredible career, Jennifer made sure that her clients are aware of the in-

dividual care they will receive while at D'Amore Healthcare, which includes screening and assessment before admissions and following through with the patient's intake from start to finish, in addition to discharge planning.

It is my privilege to honor this humble and hard-working woman. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in acknowledging the career and accomplishments of Jennifer Carpenter.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. JIMMIE JACKSON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Vallejo NAACP President Jimmie Jackson. Passing away at the age of 75, Mr. Jackson leaves behind an indelible legacy of advocacy and community service to Solano County.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Mr. Jackson demonstrated his persevering and industrious spirit from a young age, earning recognition for his football abilities and eventually enrolling at Fisk University on an athletic scholarship.

In 1966, Mr. Jackson was drafted into the U.S. Air Force, where he bravely served our nation in Vietnam. He was later stationed at Travis Air Force Base, beginning his long-term residency in Solano County. After being honorably discharged in 1969, Mr. Jackson continued his selfless service as a member of the Army Reserves, while also earning his bachelor's degree in Government and his master's degree in Public Administration.

Mr. Jackson's commitment to his country was not only expressed through his military service, but also through his public service to Solano County. From 1977 to 1980, and again from 2011 to 2023, Mr. Jackson served as the Vallejo NAACP President. Additionally, he served on the NAACP National Credentials Committee, the NAACP Vallejo Executive Committee, and the CA/HI NAACP Executive Committee. He was a valiant advocate for the NAACP and his courageous leadership was instrumental in advancing the fight for justice.

Throughout his tenure with the NAACP, Mr. Jackson demonstrated his sincere love for his community through his compassionate leadership and altruistic advocacy. His tireless efforts as a freedom fighter, especially his work within the NAACP Youth and College Division, made him a beacon of light within his community and undeniably advanced the fight for civil rights, equality, and justice.

In addition to his crucial contributions to the NAACP, Mr. Jackson also exemplified the spirit of altruism and leadership in all areas of his life. He served on the Solano Community College Human Relations Committee, Vallejo Human Relations Commission, Solano Red Cross Board of Directors, and Vallejo Planning Commission. Mr. Jackson's indispensable leadership in these organizations played a vital role in fostering equity and unity in his community.

Mr. Jackson will be remembered not only for his decades of service to the city of Vallejo, but also for his genuine spirit of kindness and compassion. He impacted the lives of so many

in his community and was known both for his service with the NAACP and the unfailing love he had for his family. His steadfast leadership, constant smile, and patient mentorship have left a lasting legacy on Solano County and the people of Vallejo.

Mr. Jackson is survived by four children, four siblings, and a community that will dearly miss his enduring spirit. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mr. Jackson's loved ones. I know that they, along with the people of Solano County, join me in celebrating his life and legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUCY KORTUM

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 24, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Lucy Kortum, an extraordinary environmental champion and community leader, who passed away on November 30, 2022 at the age of 94.

Lucy was born in Coronado, California in 1928, where her father was stationed as a Naval aviator during World War II. She graduated from Pomona College and moved to San Francisco where she met her husband, Bill Kortum, who would later be known as the father of the Sonoma County environmental movement. They married in 1953 and began their decades-long partnership in environmental and political advocacy.

Beginning in the 1960s, Lucy and Bill led numerous public campaigns to preserve Sonoma and the northern California Coast from overdevelopment. The couple successfully advocated for saving Bodega Head from a plan to build a nuclear power plant, protecting public access along the northern Sonoma Coast. They also succeeded in passing Proposition 20, which created the California Coastal Commission and the California Coastal Act in 1972.

Lucy was also a passionate historian and a champion of local and statewide architectural preservation. She earned her teaching credential at Sonoma State University, and later returned in 1991 to pursue her master's degree in history. Her master's thesis resulted in the addition of ten California Carnegie libraries to the National Register of Historic Places, and her work was later credited with adding the 1892 Petaluma Silk Mill to the National Register, saving it from future demolition.

Lucy was highly motivated by her family and strong sense of community. The Kortum's home became a community hub in Sonoma County, often hosting meetings about pressing local issues. I am among many of the beneficiaries of Lucy and Bill Kortum's wisdom and mentorship. She leaves behind her sons, Frank and Sam Kortum, her daughter, Julie Groves, and her five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that Lucy Kortum was a community figure who will be missed and whose many contributions to the region are a legacy worthy of congressional recognition. Please join me in extending condolences to Lucy's family and many friends, and in expressing my deep appreciation for the positive impact she has left on the community and the environment.